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NRO review(s) completed.

20 DEC 1963

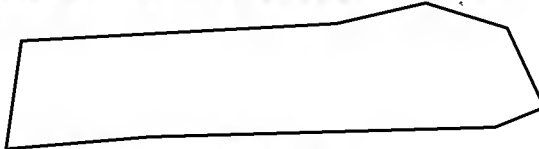
**MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence**

**SUBJECT: Further Comment on Loss of CORONA  
Cameras over China**

1. In my meeting on 19 December with Fubini and McMillan we discussed the problem that had been raised twice at USIB as to the danger of losing the C Triple Prime camera in a U-2 over China or other denied territory. Fubini confirmed my previous understanding that we have already lost this technology.

2. The CORONA panoramic satellite camera is an enlargement of the earlier balloon camera developed at Boston University and subsequently manufactured by ITEK. This camera is about a third the size of the CORONA but operates in essentially the same way and contains all the basic technology. Three of these cameras were lost in an Air Force balloon operation over the Soviet Union (the last of which was lost in March 1958) and are now on display in one of the Moscow museums. Fubini is emphatic that the basic camera technology has already been compromised and McMillan and I are agreed that we should proceed directly to exploiting the CORONA cameras in U-2's where high resolution is needed.

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**ALBERT D. WHEELON**  
Deputy Director  
(Science & Technology)

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Exec Director  
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